

BLM News

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Elko Field Office, 3900 East Idaho Street, Elko, Nevada 89801 (775) 753-0200

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CONTACT: Mike Brown
(775) 753-0386
e-mail: Mike_Brown@nv.blm.gov

OPEN HOUSE SCHEDULED TO DISCUSS MAINTENANCE OF FIRE BREAKS

An open house to discuss maintaining green strips around communities in Elko County will be held at the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Elko Field Office, 3900 East Idaho Street, on Wednesday, May 3, 2006, 6:00 p.m. The public is invited to attend.

BLM Elko Fire Management Officer Joe Freeland commented, "Given the heavy moisture we had this past winter and spring, we're expecting above average vegetation growth this growing season. One area where vegetation growth is a concern is in the green strips which protect communities from wildfire."

"BLM and partners installed numerous green strips in Elko County since the record fire years of 1999-2001," Freeland continued. "Green strips are swaths of land planted with fire-resistant vegetation to slow or stop the spread of wildland fires. Green strips also provide a defensible space around communities at risk from wildland fires. To function properly, the green strips must be maintained and be free of large amounts of dead or dry vegetation."

"We're looking at several methods of reducing the amount of vegetation in the green strips such as high intensity/short duration livestock grazing, mowing, and possibly prescribed burning. We invite the public to come to the open house and discuss any issues or concerns with green strip maintenance activities," Freeland concluded.

For more information about the open house, contact Tom Reid, BLM Fuels Specialist at (775) 753-0200 or email treid@nv.blm.gov.

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